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Your
Office of
Lieutenant
Governor

George H. Ryan

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The Constitution provides that the Lieutenant Governor becomes Governor should a vacancy occur. Additional responsibilities now handled by the office of the Lieutenant Governor — many for the first time — have been accomplished through legislative mandate, assignments by the Governor, and personal initiative:

Economic Development



Big on Small Business.

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor is active in economic development, but with a particular slant: working to foster small business growth and development.

In total, Illinois is home to 255,000 smaller enterprises, accounting for 94% of all businesses in the State. To ensure a strong communication link between this major employment sector and State government, Governor Thompson created a 35-member Small Business Advisory Council, naming Lieutenant Governor Ryan its chairman. Among other activities, the SBAC holds an annual statehouse conference to prepare policy recommendations to address small business in Illinois.

Another important way to bolster small business is through export programs. The Lieutenant Governor chairs the Illinois Export Development Authority and the Illinois Export Council which provide financial and technical export assistance to small- and medium-sized businesses. Export development provides a unique opportunity for Illinois: the U.S. Department of Commerce estimates every \$1 billion in exports translates into about 25,000 jobs.

Special Focus on: Citizens Advocacy

Lieutenant Governor George H. Ryan



In the process of growing to meet the specialized needs of citizens, government has also grown more complex. As a result, many citizens don't know where to even begin to obtain the services from government that they pay for, want, and are entitled to.

Through the Citizens Advocate Program (CAP), administered by Lieutenant Governor George Ryan's Office, Illinois residents can get help in cutting through bureaucratic red tape. Lieutenant Governor Ryan established CAP so citizens can resolve their problems and air any grievances against government. By calling 1-800-252-6584 toll-free, anyone having any problem can expect an answer, generally within two to three weeks. While the resolution may not necessarily be the

one the citizen was hoping for, at a very minimum, CAP will provide an explanation of the law or administrative guideline the state agency used in reaching its decision.

In recent years, CAP has handled some 20,000 complaints and requests. The more common problems have been income tax returns, difficulties with drivers' licenses and veterans benefits. But the problems handled have been highly diverse too: unauthorized junk yard storage . . . discrimination charges . . . unwarranted parking tickets . . . weatherization assistance . . . and in one instance, re-uniting family members separated in World War II.

The government services are there to help citizens. And through the Citizens Advocate Program, Lieutenant Governor Ryan works to ensure the services are delivered. The assistance is only a toll-free phone call away: 1-800-252-6584.

Special Focus on: Abandoned Mined Lands

Lieutenant Governor George H. Ryan



Throughout Illinois' history, the coal mining industry has played an important role in the state's economy. It has provided employment, spurred railroad construction, and generated significant income for the state. But it has not been a practice without consequence: in the wake of coal mining lies scarred, useless land which often poses safety and environmental hazards. Abandoned shafts gape open, allowing toxic gases to escape from below the surface . . . and acid drainage and erosion severely degrade the quality of land and water surrounding the once-mined sites. A 1980 survey indicated that some 200,000 acres in Illinois were affected by mining activity prior to 1977 — of which some 20,000 acres posed significant enough problems to warrant reclamation.

In order to carry out this reclamation, the Illinois state legislature established the Abandoned Mined Lands Reclamation Council (AML), chaired by the Lieutenant Governor and consisting of the directors of seven state agencies. Under this mandate, Lieutenant Governor George Ryan and the directors of the Departments of Energy and Natural Resources, Mines and Minerals, Agriculture, Commerce and Community Affairs, Conservation, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Capital Development Board formulate policies for the reclamation program. An executive director and a full-time staff design and manage the projects, working with qualified contractors and consultants selected through competitive bidding.

In addition to State guidelines, the AML Reclamation Council operates under the federal Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977. This law established a national reclamation program to be

administered by the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) within the U.S. Department of the Interior.

In order to qualify for reclamation under the program, a site must meet three criteria. The damage must have been caused by coal mining; the site must have had no mining activity since August 3, 1977; and must contain serious safety or environmental hazards.

It is through an annual grant from OSM that Chairman Ryan helps direct the Council in its reclamation work. The OSM money originates from a production fee paid by coal operators at the rate of 15¢ per ton for underground-mined coal and 35¢ per ton for surface-mined coal.

By the end of 1985, the AML Reclamation Council



had reclaimed nearly 3,000 acres of abandoned mine sites. Due to the restoration work, once useless land now serves as wildlife habitat, open space, pasture land, and recreational areas.

The Illinois AML Reclamation Council also conducts an emergency program — the first such agency in the nation to be granted the funding and authority by OSM to do so. Through this program, the Council is able to give immediate attention to problems at abandoned mines that occur suddenly and are life-threatening. Abandoned mine emergencies include such problems as subsidence (which occurs when there is ground movements or settling of an underground mine), gas leaks, and mine refuse fires. Since public health, safety, and property can be seriously threatened by these emergencies, the capability for immediate response is quite critical. In these instances, the Council responds within 24 hours, working to correct the abandoned mine emergency.

Special Focus on: Abandoned Mined Lands

Lieutenant Governor George H. Ryan



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Special Focus on: Drug and Alcohol Prevention

Lieutenant Governor George H. Ryan



The prevalence of drug and alcohol abuse among Illinois teenagers and its attendant tragic consequences — including highway accidents, family strife, reduced worker and academic performance and increased crime rates — has been a long-standing concern for Lieutenant Governor Ryan.

The Lieutenant Governor has especially focused on *prevention*, or working to avert substance abuse problems. Illinois' prevention programs are considered so unique that First Lady Nancy Reagan visited the State to learn firsthand about its efforts.

Lieutenant Governor Ryan has also encouraged an increased focus on prevention by other state agencies. He lobbied for legislation to double the amount of state

funding for prevention programs, such as In Touch. In Touch (which stands for "Illinois Network to Organize the Understanding of Community Health") will fund teacher training, community projects, and 18 regional prevention specialist positions. In Touch will be administered by the State's Department of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (DASA), and all activities will be organized at the local level.

Since it is at the grass roots level that effective prevention must be accomplished, emphasis is placed on fostering public awareness of the importance of prevention. One such program is Operation Snowball. Through this program, teenagers develop a healthy sense of self-esteem which in turn makes them much less susceptible to the temptations of drugs and alcohol. Lieutenant Governor Ryan visits two to three high schools and community groups a week to speak about substance abuse prevention.

Another program that spreads the word about prevention is S.T.O.P. (Sports Teams Organized for the Prevention of Substance Abuse). This not-for-profit corporation was established by Ryan and the Chicago Bears and now includes all the Chicago and St. Louis professional sports teams: the Chicago Bears, Bulls, Sting, Cubs, White Sox, and Black Hawks; the St. Louis Blues, Cardinals Baseball, Cardinals Football, and Steamers.

Through S.T.O.P., a professional athlete joins the Lieutenant Governor in speaking to high school and community groups about prevention programs available to them. In fact, that is the essence of S.T.O.P.: an assembly will not be held unless the school



or community already has an on-going prevention program in place. If there is no such program, S.T.O.P. will help provide technical assistance to establish one. In this way, S.T.O.P. helps to develop an on-going commitment to prevention programs by the school or community group.

S.T.O.P.'s unique approach to prevention programming is featured in a documentary film produced by the State's Department of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse. Arrangements to receive a copy of the film can be made by calling 1-800-252-6584.

At the national level, Lieutenant Governor Ryan chairs the National Lieutenant Governors' Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force. This Task Force was established to foster and promote the development of ongoing community prevention activities in the 50 states and to encourage involvement by the private sector in prevention work. The Task Force has also issued a 50-state survey of prevention programs.

Special Focus on: Intergovernmental Affairs

Lieutenant Governor George H. Ryan



Knowing that intergovernmental cooperation is fundamental to effective government, Lieutenant Governor Ryan has worked to strengthen the relationship among various levels of government. Particularly in light of the trend of recent years toward decentralization of the federal government, it has become crucial that a local-state link be forged to ensure the delivery of even the most basic services to citizens; to provide smooth transitions; and to avoid overlap in services provided.

Intergovernmental cooperation is fostered by the Lieutenant Governor's office in many ways, including on-site review of Build Illinois projects, holding meetings for the Governor's Suburban Initiative, and

helping units of government secure needed grants and aid. This work has taken the Lieutenant Governor into all 102 counties.

The "outreach trips"—visits into every county to meet with county and municipal officials—have been one of the more extensive intergovernmental efforts undertaken by the office. Lieutenant Governor Ryan holds meetings with officials in more than 60 localities each year. From Winnebago County to Pulaski County, elected officials have used the office's intergovernmental forum to work through problems otherwise entangled in red tape.

Another facet of intergovernmental work has focused on the Build Illinois program. This \$2.3 billion, five year infrastructure improvement program was launched in 1985 to stimulate the economic vitality of the state. By emphasizing infrastructure improvements, public works projects, and economic development pro-

grams, Build Illinois demonstrates a commitment to ensuring the state's place in competing in the global markets. It is the largest single renewal effort since the founding of the state.

The number of projects specified by legislators under the Build Illinois legislation, however, exceeded the amount of funding available. In order to reconcile the two, the Governor appointed Lieutenant Governor Ryan chairman of the Build Illinois Review Team to assess the 108 projects and make recommendations on which should indeed receive funding.

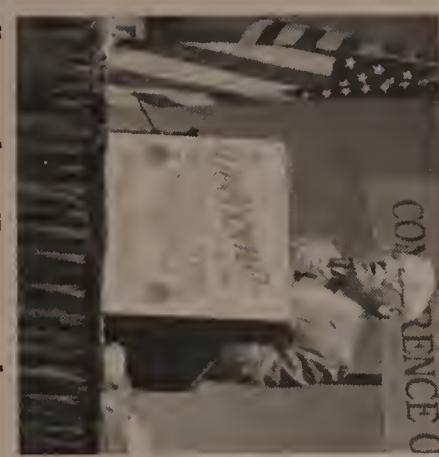
After conducting hearings and site visits in 50 cities, the Build Illinois Review Team emerged with recommendations which would enable over 80% of the add-on projects to be funded. This is the maximum affordable funding without increasing the revenues dedicated to financing Build Illinois bonds.

Finally, intergovernmental awareness has been furthered by the Lieutenant Governor through the Suburban Initiative program. These gatherings have brought together municipal officials with representatives of state agencies. In this way, area mayors and managers have an opportunity to air their concerns so that state services can be better administered and tailored to fit the communities' needs.



Special Focus on: Economic Development

Lieutenant Governor George H. Ryan



Small businesses are a crucial part of Illinois' economy: they provide paychecks to 65% of the work force and it's anticipated that 80% of all new jobs will come from this vital sector.

Lieutenant Governor George Ryan has a strong commitment to helping small businesses flourish. Ryan chairs the Small Business Advisory Council (SBAC), which Governor Thompson established in 1983, and uses his own experience as a small business owner to direct SBAC activities. The 35-member body has twice convened an annual Statehouse Conference on Small Business. The first conference, which was attended by several hundred businessmen and women, was the culmination of months of regional meetings and resulted in a comprehensive

survey of policies detrimental to small businesses, as well as suggested remedies. Of the first year's 55 recommendations, 45 have been adopted or are in various stages of implementation.

For example, one of the suggestions had been to create a special state agency designed solely to address the concerns of small business. That became a reality when, at the 1985 conference, Lieutenant Governor Ryan announced the establishment — unique to Illinois — of the new Bureau of Small Business within the state's Department of Commerce and Community Affairs.

Lieutenant Governor Ryan is also pioneering a dynamic and unique program to promote exporting by Illinois' small businesses. More than 500,000 jobs in Illinois are now dependent on exporting, but that number can and should be increased. The U.S. Department of Commerce estimates that almost 80% of all new jobs are export-related.



In Illinois, the small business sector accounts for no more than 10% of total export transactions, even though estimates indicate that as many as 1200 firms in Illinois have the ability to export. By encouraging these firms to enter the marketplace, thousands of new jobs can be created for Illinois residents. In fact, it is estimated that every \$1 billion in exports translates into about 25,000 jobs.

There are two primary reasons that small businesses which *could* export...don't: lack of knowledge and lack of money. The Illinois Export Council and the Illinois Export Development Authority, both chaired by Lieutenant Governor Ryan, are redressing these problems.

Under the Lieutenant Governor's direction, the Council's educational effort is focusing on nine specific areas:

- Agricultural Exports
- Countertrade
- Export Financing
- Pre-Export Counseling
- Policy and Communication
- Reverse Investment
- State / Federal Legislation
- Tourism
- Trade Missions.

To assist businesses with financing, the Illinois Export Development Authority (IEDA) provides competitively priced fixed-rate monies to fund short-term loans insured by the Foreign Credit Insurance Association (FCIA). This will help small and medium-sized businesses to obtain low-risk loans for both pre-shipment and post-shipment export costs. The loans will be provided by local bankers, with minimal documentation and paperwork requirements.

Under IEDA, \$15 million was released to Illinois banks in 1986. This infusion of capital will fund between \$30 million and \$40 million in export transac-

tions, maintaining or creating as many as 1,000 jobs. Eventually, IEDA intends to use its full \$100 million in revenue bonding authority — fostering the job-creating ability of exports among smaller enterprises.

One other channel through which economic development in Illinois has been promoted by the Lieutenant Governor's Office is the Build Illinois program. This initiative, which commits \$2.3 billion over a five year period to economic revitalization, holds vast potential to create jobs.

But because legislators expanded the Governor's original proposal, more projects were requested than could be funded. In response, the Governor named Lieutenant Governor Ryan chairman of his Build Illinois Review Team, directing the Team to assess the projects and make funding recommendations.

After conducting hearings and site visits in 50 communities, reviewing some 108 Build Illinois "add on" projects, Chairman Ryan and the Review Team recommended that \$113 million (over 80% of the legislative projects) be funded. The Governor accepted the recommendation, noting it was the maximum amount that could be funded without increasing those revenues dedicated to financing the bonds for Build Illinois.

Special Focus on: The Task Force on the Future of Rural Illinois

Lieutenant Governor George H. Ryan



In February of 1986, Governor Thompson highlighted in his State of the State address the critical problems of rural Illinois and the need to preserve its values and lifestyle. To address those problems and develop solutions he formed a Task Force on the Future of Rural Illinois and named Lieutenant Governor Ryan its chairman.

The bipartisan body is co-chaired by Jim Walsh, a Carmi farmer and livestock feeder, and John McCall, President of Knox College in Galesburg. The Task Force is conducting a series of meetings in smaller communities throughout the state. Twenty five citizens from across Illinois serve as members of the Task Force, with Don Norton, on leave of absence from the Illinois

Department of Agriculture, serving as director.

Approximately one-quarter of Illinois' population lives in rural Illinois. Their values and their lifestyle — the heritage of the Prairie State — have been severely tested by tough and challenging economic times. Many of their problems are circular in effect. For example, depressed rural land values translate into lower property tax revenues. That's less money for maintaining roads, which are crucial in moving 95% of agricultural commodities to market. Spiraling insurance costs for rural localities; reduced funding for local schools; declining support of smaller town businesses in favor of malls in adjoining larger communities; an inability to attract medical professionals — the challenges facing the smaller towns of Illinois are as varied as they are numerous.

For that reason, the Task Force is centering on a broad range of issues, including economic development,

education, health care, social services, local government, production agriculture, agriculture credit, banking, and agribusiness.

In response to its findings, the Task Force will formulate a three-level response.

- The first level will be immediate efforts to resolve the immediate problems.

- The second tier will be an action agenda drawn up for the Governor and Legislature to address short-term goals and solution for the next two to three years.

- The third level of response is to forecast and provide a long-range plan with an eye toward the year 2000, developing a strategy for "Rural Illinois 2000."

Some of the problems mentioned in Task Force hearings are universal . . . some are unique: fears over the future of their small town because young people are growing up and moving away . . . concerns that a local road improvement project was taking too long, impeding access to the town's businesses. . . worries over

the use of drugs and alcohol among teenagers . . . questions about the ability of the family farm to survive . . . uncertainties over the implications of possible school consolidation, and whether that would best serve the students' needs.

But always being voiced as loudly as any concern is an unmistakable note of pride in being a resident of rural Illinois. Their commitment to the unity, values, and closeness offered by smaller towns is apparent, underscoring the importance of the goals of the Task Force on the Future of Rural Illinois.

For more information on the Task Force, write or call: Task Force on the Future of Rural Illinois, Room 610 Stratton Office Bldg., Springfield, IL 62706; (217) 782-7514.

Special Focus on: Senior Citizens

Lieutenant Governor George H. Ryan



The office of Lieutenant Governor George Ryan has three primary components to its senior citizen services: the Senior Action Centers, the Senior Legislative Forum, and the Technical Advisory Committee.

The foundation of the Lieutenant Governor's senior outreach efforts lies with the Senior Action Centers, located in Springfield and Chicago. These offices maintain a toll-free number at 1-800-252-6565, providing older residents around the state with instant access to information, and problem solving and referral. The Senior Action Centers handle well over 30,000 advocacy cases a year.

For example, many older people have difficulty with a special property tax break they are entitled to, called

the Circuit Breaker. Seniors also often request assistance in finding appropriate housing, learning about in-home care options, discovering transportation alternatives, and receiving public aid.

And while ensuring that seniors have access to existing services is certainly an important element to elderly advocacy, it is equally important to identify those services and policies that the aged *wish* existed.

The Senior Legislative Forum fulfills that function. Through this effort, over 5,000 seniors' clubs are represented at Forum meetings, where the members meet to discuss and formulate the legislative priorities of the people that they represent.

Residents from all across the state are ensured representation because of the way the Forum is structured. The state is divided into 13 regions, from which Lieutenant Governor Ryan appoints Governors, Vice-Governors, and Secretaries. The regional Governors in

turn appoint six committee chairmen to serve on the Forum's six committees: housing; transportation; health and nutrition; consumerism; crimes against the elderly; and income maintenance.

Any seniors' organization can join, if it meets a couple of simple requirements: it must consist of at least 12 members, all of whom are at least 60 years old. There is no fee to join the Legislative Forum.

Forum members interact with clubs and organizations at the local level; participate in the 13 regional meetings; and hold an annual statewide conference. In this way, the Senior Legislative Forum serves in an advisory, quasi-legislative capacity, *enabling seniors to lobby for seniors.*



The third outlet for the Lieutenant Governor to serve as an advocate for senior citizens comes through legislative mandate — serving as Chairman of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Aging. This collaboration of state agencies oversees and coordinates the variety of programs that they offer to the elderly.

One of the more recent undertakings of the TAC has been publication of the 50-page "Guide to Senior Services — Illinois." This handbook serves as a central updated resource on programs and benefits available to Illinois' older population.

To obtain information on any senior services, call toll-free at 1-800-252-6565 or in Chicago at (312) 917-3333. Lieutenant Governor Ryan's Senior Action Centers are located at: #3 Old Towne Mall, Springfield, Illinois, 62701; and the State of Illinois Center, 100 W. Randolph, Suite 15-200, Chicago, Illinois 60601.

Just Say No! Lieutenant Governor Ryan has long worked to prevent substance abuse. In appearances before school and community groups, Ryan encourages support and participation in grass roots prevention programs, such as Operation Snowball. In another project, S.T.O.P. Substance Abuse, the Lieutenant Governor is joined in delivering the prevention message by professional athletes from Chicago and St. Louis teams. Ryan also



steered passage of the "InTouch" legislation, earmarking \$1.6 million for statewide substance abuse education — thereby doubling the funding for prevention efforts.

Drug / Alcohol Prevention

Task Force on the Future of Rural Illinois

A Rural Renaissance. Over one-quarter of the Illinois population lives in rural areas, yet there has never been a study of the considerable problems they confront.

Calling for a "rural renaissance," the Governor appointed a Task Force on the Future of Rural Illinois and named Lieutenant Governor Ryan its chairman. Through hearings and careful study, the Task Force is examining economic development, education, health care, social services, agricultural issues, and local government — all aspects that affect rural Illinois. Then, the Task Force will formulate ways to preserve the values and lifestyle of this segment of the Illinois citizenry.



Have a 'Wait' Problem? For too many citizens, having a government-related problem becomes a matter of being assured again and again that they should just 'wait.' No more. Through the Citizens Advocate Program, Lieutenant Governor Ryan works to bring about an answer to any such problem. The 20,000 CAP cases



handled to date have assisted citizens with social security, tax refunds, and driver licensing. Most problems are resolved within two to three weeks. Just call 1-800-252-6584.

Citizens Advocacy

Abandoned Mined Lands

From Abused Land to Used Land. The coal mining industry has played a crucial role in the development of Illinois. But before the enactment of federal and state laws, coal operators were able to simply abandon their lands once mining had ceased; they had no responsibility for restoring the site. Thousands of acres of Illinois land were left with safety and environmental problems. But the Abandoned Mined Lands Reclamation Council, under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor Ryan, has transformed nearly 3,000 acres of this once useless land into public parks, wildlife habitat, and open space. A council survey indicates that about another 9,000 acres yet need reclamation.



Special Age, Special Needs. Some 1.8 million elderly make their home in Illinois. The Technical Advisory Committee was established by state law to coordinate the services to the elderly, and is chaired by the Lieutenant Governor. Another important group is the Senior Legislative Forum, established to solicit input from the seniors themselves. The Forum is made up of representatives of 5,000 senior clubs. The Lieutenant Governor also oversees the Senior Action Centers, which provide assistance to some 30,000 elderly Illinoisans annually. Help is available through the Senior Action Centers with just a quick, toll-free call: 1-800-252-6565.



Senior Citizens

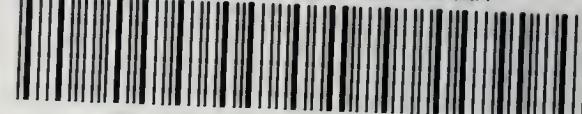
Intergovernmental Affairs



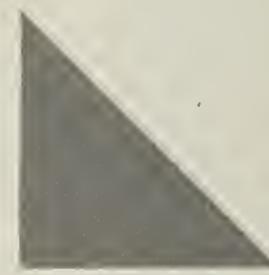
Capital Connection. Working to cultivate a strong cooperative relationship between Springfield and Illinois' many local government units is another priority of the Lieutenant Governor's

office. Because of federal government decentralization, local governments must assume more responsibilities, making it all the more crucial that close contact be maintained among the tiers of government. Through his outreach trips into 102 counties, Suburban Initiative and Build Illinois programs, the Lieutenant Governor provides the cities and towns of Illinois with a strong connection to the capital city.

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**For Further
Information Contact:**

Citizens' Advocate Program
1-800-252-6584

Senior Action Center
1-800-252-6565

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